

Message Text

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46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 151300Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2527

CONFIDENTIAL TEHRAN 6807

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, IR

SUBJ: PAN AMERICAN - IRAN DEAL

REF: STATE 155897

1. SEAWELL CALLED ON AMBASSADOR JULY 13TH TO REPORT
ON RESULTS OF HIS VISIT HERE WITH JENKINS OF METROPOLITAN
LIFE AND PETERSON OF LEHMAN BROTHERS. HE SAID THAT THEY
HAD COME HERE IN THE EXPECTATION THAT IRAN WAS PRE-
PARED TO CONCLUDE AN AGREEMENT WITH PAN AM BUT APPARENTLY
SOME UNFORESEEN PROBLEMS HAD EMERGED IN THE INTERIM.
THE UPSHOT WAS THAT HIS GROUP HAD HAD NO REALLY
SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS WITH THOSE GOI OFFICIALS MOST
DIRECTLY INVOLVED ALTHOUGH THEY HAD TALKED TO MEDHI
SAMII AND IRAN AIR GENERAL KHADEMI ON SEVERAL SOCIAL
OCCASIONS. THE MESSAGE SEAWELL WAS GIVEN WAS THAT
IRAN IS NOW IN THE PROCESS OF REEVALUATING ITS COMMIT-
MENTS AND POSSIBLE NEW OBLIGATIONS IN LIGHT OF LESS
THAN EXPECTED OIL REVENUES. ACCORDINGLY TTE TIMEING
WAS BAD FOR IRAN TO UNDERTAKE ANY NEW COMMITMENT.
SEAWELL ASKED WHETHER WE HAD ANY ADDITIONAL INSIGHTS
INTO WHY PAN AM HAD BEEN INVITED HERE AND THEN BEEN
SUDDENLY TURNED OFF. WE RESPONDED THAT IT WAS INDEED
TRUE THAT IRAN WAS UNDERGOING A PERIOD OF REASSESSMENT
OF COMMITMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS IN LIGHT OF DIMINISHED
INCOME EXPECTATIONS AND THAT IT WAS NOT CURRENTLY
MAKING ANY NEW COMMITMENTS. THIS WAS A WELL KNOWN AND
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WELL PUBLICIZED EXERCISE WHICH WE BELIEVED TO BE
PERFECTLY TRUE. NEVERTHELESS WE WERE AT A LOSS TO
EXPLAIN WHY PAN AM HAD BEEN INVITED WITHOUT HAVING
BEEN GIVEN FOREKNOWLEDGE OF THIS EXERCISE.

2. THE FOLLOWING DAY THE DCM MET WITHMEDHI SAMII ON OTHER MATTERS BUT TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY OF ASKING HIM ABOUT THE PAM AN DEAL. SAMII CONFIRMED WHAT SEAWELL HAD TOLD US ADDING SOME DETAILS ABOUT THE WAY THEE INVITATION HAD DEVELOPED WHICH REFLECTED A CERTAIN LACK OF COORDINATION WIHN THE GOI ON THIS MATTER. HE REAFFIRMED THAT THE DOOR HAD NOT BEEN CLOSED ON PAN AM'S PROPOSAL AND SAID THAT IRAN STILL HAD AN INTEREST IN THE MATTER.

3. THE SUBSTANCE OF THIS CONVERSATION HAS BEEN CONVEYED TO THE LOCAL PAN AM REPRESENTATIVE FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SEAWELL.

MIKLOS

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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